In the Claims

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1. [Currently amended] A method for workload planning, comprising the steps of:

determining for each of a plurality of prospective customers, a projected volume of material for processing;

determining for each customer a complexity factor for processing said material, including identifying any critical factors, dismantling prototype machines, identifying work content and resulting saleable, commodity, and trash items, said complexity factor representing processing time divided by said volume as defined during prototype dismantling and subsequently modified by actual experience;

said critical factors including specific asset protection requirements, destruction, and impairment techniques, regardless of any financial benefit or cost;

utilizing periodic updates of said projected volume and of said critical factors and of any other factors, prior customer product shipment experience and new demanufacturing product prototyping to establish and adjust said complexity factor for each of said plurality of customers; and

responsive to said projected volume and said complexity factor for each of said plurality of customers, determining staffing requirements and productivity targets for a demanufacturing enterprise for processing said material for a plurality of future periods to facilitate advanced warning and the time to preclude any future staffing or capacity issues.

2. Canceled

3. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of converting said volume to weight.

4. [Currently amended] The method of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, further comprising the steps of converting said volume to weight, and determining said complexity factor by prototyping.

5. [Original] The method of claim 4, said prototyping including the step of disassembly prototyping.

6. [Original] The method of claim 5, said disassembly prototyping step being applied to new material and further comprising the step of accumulating historical data for determining said complexity factor for previously disassembled material.

7. [Currently amended] The method of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, said projecting step further comprising the step of determining an expected number of truckloads of said material.

8. [Original] The method of claim 5, said disassembly prototyping further including the step of determining salvageable and disposable content for said material of a given equipment type.

9. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of applying said quantity projections and complexity factors to workload planning model for forecasting workload requirements for said processing; and responsive to said workload requirements determining staffing requirements and resource balancing between projects.

10. [Original] The method of claim 9, further comprising the steps of adjusting said workload requirements for absenteeism, fatigue, breaks, and vacation pattern factors.

11. [Original] The method of claim 9, said workload planning model being implemented as a computer spreadsheet.

12. [Original] The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of periodically updating said workload planning model based upon actual and anticipated changes in quantity projections and complexity factors.

13. [Previously presented] The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of calculating said productivity targets for a demanufacturing enterprise using said quantity projections and complexity factors.

14. [Currently amended] A method for forecasting staffing requirements for a demanufacturing enterprise, comprising

the steps of:

determining for each of a plurality of prospective customers, a projected volume of material returns for processing;

determining for each customer a complexity factor for processing said material, including identifying any critical factors;

said critical factors including specific asset protection requirements, destruction, and impairment techniques, regardless of any financial benefit or cost factors;

converting projected ~~customer~~ material returns for each